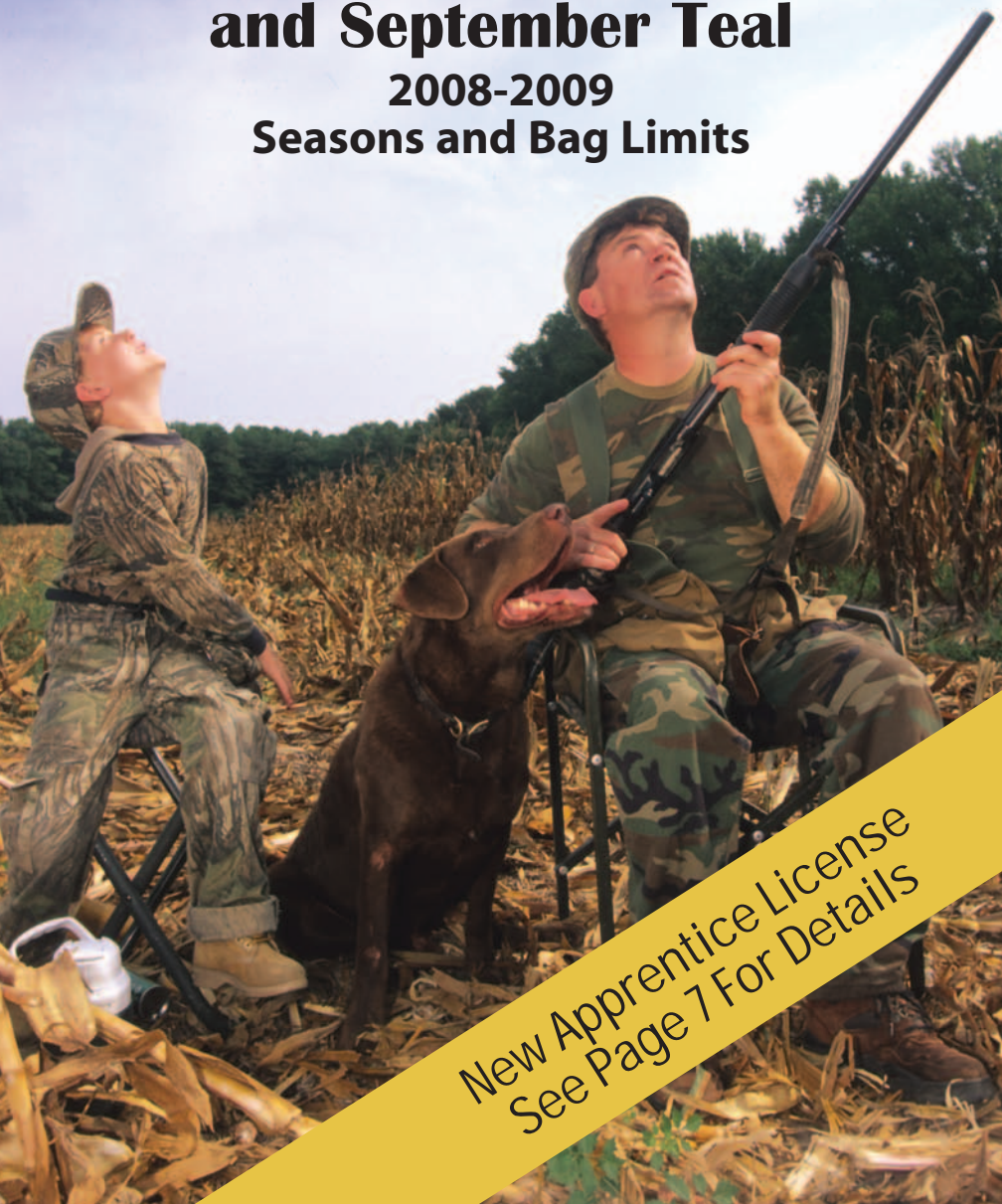


Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

Virginia Dove, Woodcock, Snipe, Rail, September Canada Goose, and September Teal

**2008-2009
Seasons and Bag Limits**



**New Apprentice License
See Page 7 For Details**

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cover photo by Dwight Dyke

To be used as a supplement to Hunting and Trapping in Virginia, 2008-2009 Regulations which contains additional information on license requirements, license fees, and general regulations governing hunting in Virginia as well as open seasons and bag limits on non-migratory game birds, game animals, and furbearing animals.

Caution: More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on Federal regulations, contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, 5721 South Laburnum Ave., Richmond, VA 23231; phone (804) 771-2883, 771-2280; FAX (804) 222-8421.



Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
4010 West Broad St., Richmond, VA 23230-1104
804/367-1000 804/367-1278 Voice/TDD

www.HuntFishVA.com

Commonwealth of Virginia

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Governor

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Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

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If you have questions or need assistance, contact the office nearest you.

Richmond Headquarters

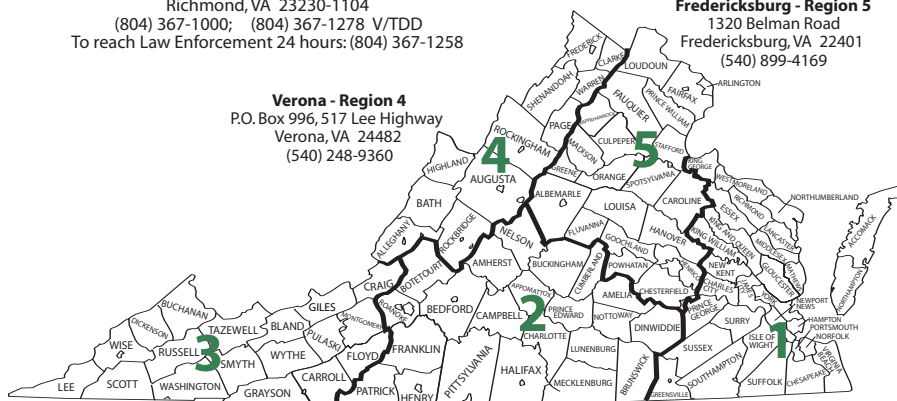
P.O. Box 11104, 4010 West Broad St.
Richmond, VA 23230-1104
(804) 367-1000; (804) 367-1278 V/TDD
To reach Law Enforcement 24 hours: (804) 367-1258

Verona - Region 4

P.O. Box 996, 517 Lee Highway
Verona, VA 24482
(540) 248-9360

Fredericksburg - Region 5

1320 Belman Road
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
(540) 899-4169



Marion - Region 3

1796 Highway Sixteen
Marion, VA 24354
(276) 783-4860

Forest - Region 2

1132 Thomas Jefferson Road
Forest, VA 24551-9223
(434) 525-7522

Charles City - Region 1

3801 John Tyler Memorial Hwy.
Charles City, VA 23030
(804) 829-6580

What's New For 2008-2009

Dove

- The bag limit for dove has increased to 15 per day, 30 in possession.

Canada Goose

- The bag limit for Canada geese has increased to 10 per day, 20 in possession.
- The shooting hours have been expanded to 1/2 hour after sunset for areas West of I-95 from Sept 1–25, and East of I-95 from Sept 1–19.

Attention Rail and Snipe Hunters

- A new regulation that goes into effect this hunting season in Virginia requires the use of non-toxic shot for hunting rails, snipe, moorhens and gallinules. Non-toxic shot is now required for hunting all waterfowl, mergansers, coots, rails, snipe, moorhens and gallinules.

Migratory Game Bird Hunters—Get HIP!

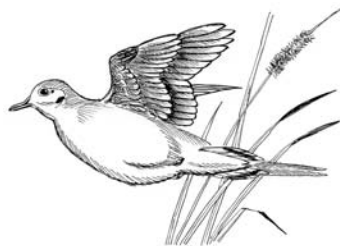
All hunters (whether licensed or exempt from being licensed) who plan to hunt doves, waterfowl, rails, woodcock, snipe, coots, gallinules or moorhens in Virginia must be registered with the Virginia Harvest Information Program (HIP). HIP is required each year and a NEW REGISTRATION NUMBER is needed for the 2008-2009 hunting season. To obtain a new number, migratory game bird hunters can register online at www.HuntFishVA.com or call 1-888-788-9772.

Mission Statement

To manage Virginia's wildlife and inland fish to maintain optimum populations of all species to serve the needs of the Commonwealth; To provide opportunity for all to enjoy wildlife, inland fish, boating and related outdoor recreation and to work diligently to safeguard the rights of the people to hunt, fish and harvest game as provided for in the Constitution of Virginia; To promote safety for persons and property in connection with boating, hunting and fishing; To provide educational outreach programs and materials that foster an awareness of and appreciation for Virginia's fish and wildlife resources, their habitats, and hunting, fishing, and boating opportunities.

Dove

- Season:** September 1–September 27
Hours: 12:00 noon until sunset.
- Season:** October 4–31
December 27–January 10
Hours: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.
- Bag Limit:** 15 per day, 30 in possession.



Dove; illustration by Spike Knuth

Dove Hunting On Wildlife Management Areas

Dove hunting permitted within the boundaries of the following wildlife management areas: Amelia, Briery Creek, Cavalier, Chickahominy, Dick Cross, Fairystone, Featherfin, Hardware River, Hog Island (Carlisle Tract only), Horsepen, James River, Pettigrew, C.F. Phelps, Powhatan and White Oak Mountain.

- Season:** September 1–September 27
Hours: 12:00 noon until sunset.
Hunting permitted on Labor Day, Wednesdays and Saturdays only.
- Season:** October 4–31
December 27–January 10
Hours: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.
Hunting permitted daily except Sundays.
- Bag Limit:** 15 per day, 30 in possession.

Blaze Orange Requirement

When hunting any game species during a general firearms deer season, every hunter or person accompanying a hunter shall wear a blaze orange hat or blaze orange upper body clothing that is visible from 360 degrees or display at least 100 square inches of solid blaze orange material at shoulder level within body reach and visible from 360 degrees. Hats may have a bill color or design other than solid blaze orange. Hats shall not be in “camo” style, since the latter is designated to prevent visibility. A logo which does not detract from visibility may be worn on a blaze orange hat. Blaze orange is not required during the special muzzleloading deer season(s) or by waterfowl hunters, individuals participating in hunting dog field trials and fox hunters on horseback without firearms.

September Canada Goose

Season: September 1–25

Hunt Zone: Statewide

Bag Limit: 10 per day, 20 in possession.

Hours:

East of I-95:

September 1–19: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

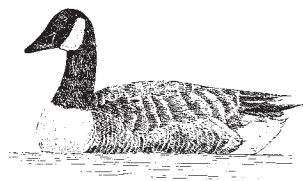
September 20–25: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset

West of I-95

September 1–25: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

September Canada goose hunting is not permitted within the boundaries of the Amelia and Dick Cross Wildlife Management Areas.

Special Requirements: In addition to a HIP registration number, a federal migratory duck stamp and a Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp are also required to hunt geese during this season.



Canada goose

September Teal

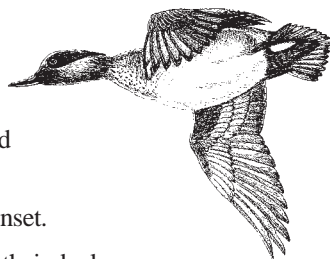
Season: September 20–September 30

Hunt Zone: East of I-95 only.

Bag Limit: 4 per day, 8 in possession.*
(any combination of blue-winged and green-winged teal)

Hours: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

***Note:** Hunters are cautioned to *positively identify* their ducks before shooting, since other species, such as wood ducks, may be in the area.



Green-winged teal;
illustration by Spike Knuth

Special Requirements: In addition to a HIP registration number, a federal migratory duck stamp and a Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp are also required to hunt teal during this season.

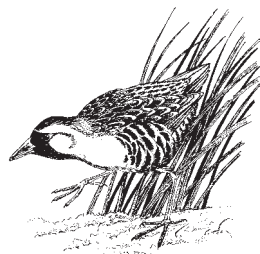
Rails

Season: September 10–November 18

Hours: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

Bag Limit: Clapper/King 15–counted together daily,
30 in possession.

Sora/Virginia 25–counted together daily,
25 in possession.



Sora rail; illustration by Spike Knuth

Note: Non-toxic shot now required for rail and snipe hunting



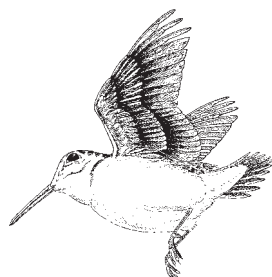
Common snipe;
illustration by Spike Knuth

Snipe

Season: October 9–13
October 22–January 31

Hours: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

Bag Limit: 8 per day, 16 in possession.



Woodcock; illustration by Spike Knuth

Woodcock

Season: November 8–22
December 20–January 3

Hours: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

Bag Limit: 3 per day, 6 in possession.

Non-toxic Shot

Non-toxic shot approved by the Department [steel, bismuth, tungsten-bronze, tungsten-iron, tungsten-tin-bismuth, tungsten-polymer, tungsten matrix, tungsten-nickel-iron (HEVISHOT), tungsten-iron-nickel-tin (TINT), tungsten-iron-coppernickel, tungsten-tin-iron, and iron-tungsten-nickel shots] is required for hunting all waterfowl, mergansers, coots, moorhens, gallinules, snipe and rails. Lead shot is **not allowed** for hunting these species and **cannot be in possession** in the field while hunting these species. Shot size should be no larger than “T”.

Virginia Apprentice Hunting License

- The new apprentice hunting license serves as a first-time Virginia resident or nonresident hunting license. It is good for 2 years and is nonrenewable.
- An important safety feature of the new license is that the apprentice hunter must be accompanied and directly supervised by a hunter possessing a valid Virginia hunting license who is an adult over age 18 (the mentor hunter). "Directly supervised" is defined in the new legislation as "when a person over 18 maintains a close visual and verbal contact with, provides adequate direction to, and can immediately assume control of the firearm from the apprentice hunter." This direct supervision requirement is in place because the apprentice hunter will not have had to meet the hunter education requirement as a condition of purchasing the apprentice license.
- The apprentice license does not qualify the holder to purchase a regular hunting license, nor exempt the holder from compliance with Department regulations. A hunter education course must be successfully completed to obtain a regular hunting license.
- A bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable stamps or permits are required in addition to the apprentice license.
- Previous Virginia resident and nonresident hunting license holders may not use an apprentice license.
- To purchase a license call (866) 721-6911 or log on to www.HuntFishVA.com.



**Take a Friend,
Make a Hunter**

License Fees

Licenses are valid for one year from the date of purchase with two exceptions: the Deer, Bear, Turkey License and the Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp. *The issuance fee is included in the prices below.*

Resident Hunting Licenses

Sportsman's License (16 years and older)	\$120.00
Includes hunting license, bear, deer, turkey license, archery license, crossbow license, muzzleloading license, freshwater fishing license and trout license.	
Hunting License (16 years or older)	18.00
County or City Hunting License (16 years or older)	11.00
For county or city of residence only.	

continued on page 8

Apprentice Hunting License	11.00
Annual bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license. See description on page 7.	
Junior Hunting (<i>ages 12 to 15; optional for under 12 years old</i>)	8.50
Junior Combination Hunting License (<i>under 16 years old</i>)	16.00
Includes hunting license, bear, deer, turkey license, archery license, crossbow license, and muzzleloading license.	
Junior Lifetime Hunting License (<i>under age 12</i>)	250.00
No annual bear, deer, turkey license required until age 12. National Forest Stamp, State Forest Stamp, County Damage Stamp and Bonus Deer Permits, if applicable, are required in addition to this license. Available through the Richmond office or by mail.	
Lifetime Hunting License	
Annual bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits are required in addition to this license. Available through the Richmond office or by mail.	
Age 12–44	255.00
<i>(hunter education course required under age 16)</i>	
Age 45–50	205.00
Age 51–55	155.00
Age 56–60	105.00
Age 61–64	55.00
Age 65 and over	15.00
Service-Connected Totally and Permanently Disabled Resident Veteran Lifetime License	10.00
To hunt and freshwater fish (<i>available through the Richmond Office or by mail</i>).	
Totally and Permanently Disabled Resident Special Lifetime License	10.00
Available through the Richmond Office or by mail. Annual bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps or permits are required in addition to this hunting license.	
Senior Citizen Hunting License (<i>age 65 and over</i>)	7.00
Annual bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps or permits are required in addition to this license.	

Nonresident Hunting Licenses

Licenses are valid for one year from the date of purchase with two exceptions: the Deer, Bear, Turkey License and the Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp.

Hunting License (<i>16 years or older</i>)	86.00
Apprentice Hunting License	21.00
Annual bear, deer, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps, or permits may be required in addition to this license. See description on page 7.	

3-Day Trip License (<i>16 years or older</i>)	46.00
Must be 3 consecutive hunting days; no Sunday hunting.	
Youth Hunting License (<i>under age 12</i>)	13.00
Youth Hunting License (<i>ages 12–15</i>)	16.00
Youth Combination Hunting License (<i>under 16 years old</i>)	31.00
Includes hunting license, bear, deer, turkey license, archery license, crossbow license, and muzzleloading license.	
Nonresident Lifetime Hunting License	505.00
Available through the Richmond office or by mail. Annual deer, bear, turkey license and all applicable licenses, stamps or permits are required in addition to this license.	
Hunting (Shooting) Preserve	18.00
To hunt within the boundaries of a licensed shooting preserve, in lieu of other required licenses.	

Miscellaneous Licenses and Stamps

One or more of the following may be required in addition to a hunting license.

Licenses:

Stationary shore blind*	23.00
Floating blind	40.50
Offshore Blind Stake* (limit 4 per licensee)	5.50

* All applications for stationary blind licenses and offshore blind stake licenses must be made to the clerk of the circuit court or license agent of the county wherein or nearest to which the blind site is located or in which it is to be used. These licenses are not sold thru POS. With each license the clerk or agent delivers a metal license plate which is to be affixed to the blind or offshore blind stake where it may be easily observed.

Stamps:

Federal Migratory Bird Stamp	15.00
To take migratory waterfowl, required of persons 16 years of age and over in addition to hunting license and sold at U.S. Post Offices or online at www.duckstamp.com . Valid July 1–June 30.	
Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp	10.00
To take ducks, geese, swan and brant. Required of persons 16 years of age and older, unless license exempt. Valid July 1–June 30.	

Report Wildlife Violations
1-800-237-5712
or e-mail wildcrime@dgif.virginia.gov

Lawful Hunting Methods

1. All migratory game birds may be taken by the aid of dogs, artificial decoys, manually or mouth-operated bird calls, with longbow and arrow, crossbow, or with a shotgun (not larger than 10 gauge and incapable of holding more than three shells) fired from the shoulder; and by means of falconry.
2. All migratory game birds may be taken in the open, or from a blind or other place of concealment (except a sinkbox) on land or water camouflaged with natural vegetation, or with vegetation from agricultural crops, as long as such camouflaging does not result in the exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of grain or other feed. (The term “sinkbox” refers to a raft or any type of low floating device having a depression which affords a hunter a means of concealing himself below the surface of the water).
3. All migratory game birds may be taken from floating craft (except a sinkbox), including those propelled by motor, sail and wind, or both, when (1) the motor of such craft has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled as the case may be and its progress therefrom has ceased; and (2) it is drifting, beached, moored, resting at anchor, or it is being propelled by paddle, oars, or pole. Craft under power may be used to retrieve dead or crippled birds. Crippled birds may not be shot from such craft under power except shooting of crippled waterfowl from a motorboat under power is permitted in those areas described, delineated and designated as special sea duck hunting areas.
4. All migratory game birds may be taken on or over standing crops or flooded standing crops (including aquatics); flooded harvested croplands; or lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of “normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice” that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of county State Extension Specialists of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. (Agricultural practices for hunting are limited to those undertaken to produce and gather a crop and manage the field afterwards.)
5. All migratory game birds may be taken on or over standing, flooded, or manipulated natural vegetation. There is no restriction on when manipulation may occur. Planted millet is not considered natural vegetation unless it becomes naturalized and grows on its own in subsequent years.
6. All migratory game birds may be taken over surface-mined lands being reclaimed where seeds or grains are scattered solely as a result of normal soil stabilization practice.
7. All migratory game birds, **except for waterfowl**, may be taken on or over lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas, and where grain or other feed has been distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultur-

al crop or other feed on the land where grown, or solely as the result of a normal agricultural operation that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of county State Extension Specialists of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

8. All migratory game birds may be taken over standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where hunters have inadvertently scattered grain solely as a result of entering or leaving the field, placing decoys, or retrieving downed birds.

Unlawful Hunting Methods

1. Migratory game birds may not be taken with a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, or machine gun.
2. Migratory game birds may not be taken with a shotgun of any description originally capable of holding more than three shells, the magazine of which has not been cut off, altered, or plugged with a one-piece metal or wooden filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so as to reduce the capacity of the said gun to not more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined.
3. Migratory game birds may not be taken from or by means, aid, or use of a sinkbox, motor-driven conveyance, motor vehicle, or aircraft of any kind.
4. Migratory game birds may not be taken from or by means of a sailboat or other boat or floating craft having a motor attached unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or sails furled and its progress therefrom has ceased.
5. Migratory game birds may not be taken by means or aid of any motor-driven land, water, or air conveyance or sailboat used for the purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of waterfowl and coots.
6. Migratory game birds may not be taken by the use or aid of livestock as a blind or means of concealment.
7. Migratory game birds may not be taken by the use or aid of live birds as decoys.
8. Migratory game birds may not be taken by the use or aid of recorded bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds.
9. Migratory game birds may not be taken by the aid of baiting, or on, or over any baited area. As used in this section, **“baiting”** shall mean the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them; and **“baited area”** means any area on which salt, grain, or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered, if that salt, grain, or other feed could serve as a

lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Any such area will remain a baited area for 10 days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain, or other feed. Hunters may be charged with hunting over bait if they “know or reasonably should know” that the area is a baited area. The placing or directing the placement of bait on or adjacent to an area for the purpose of causing, inducing, or allowing any person to take or attempt to take any migratory game bird by the aid of baiting or on or over a baited area constitutes a separate offense.

10. **Waterfowl may not be hunted** over manipulated planted millet, or over seed or grain from manipulated agricultural crops or normal agricultural operations except where seed or grain is present solely as a result of normal planting, harvesting or post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice.

Possession and Transportation

- Possession limits apply to transportation of game killed on more than one day.
- Ownership and possession of birds legally taken by any hunter is deemed to have ceased when such birds have been delivered by him to a post office, a common carrier, or a commercial cold-storage or locker plant for transportation to some person other than the hunter.
- No person may possess over the daily limit of any wild bird or animal while in the forests, fields or waters of this state.
- If any person leaves migratory game birds in any place for any purpose, including temporary storage, the birds must have a tag attached with certain identifying information. Also, no person shall have in possession any migratory game birds belonging to another unless the birds are tagged.
- Any person, without a permit, may possess and transport for his own use the plumage and skins of lawfully taken, migratory game birds.
- Any persons, without a permit, may possess, dispose of and transport for the making of fishing flies, bed pillows, and mattresses, and for similar commercial uses, but not for millinery or ornamental use, feathers of wild ducks and wild geese lawfully killed, or seized and condemned by federal or state game authorities.
- Any person, without a permit, may transport lawfully killed migratory game birds into, within, or out of any state during and after the open seasons in the state where taken, subject to these and other conditions and restrictions.
 - (a) If such birds are dressed, one fully feathered wing must remain attached to each bird so as to permit species identification while being transported be-

tween the place where taken and the personal abode of the possessor or between the place where taken and a commercial preservation facility.

- (b) Any package or container in which such birds are transported must have the name, address and hunting license number of the shipper, name and address of the consignee and an accurate statement of the numbers and kinds of birds contained therein clearly and conspicuously marked on the outside thereof.

Waterfowl Blind Laws

General: The laws governing the licensing and location of waterfowl blinds are included in the Code of Virginia, promulgated by the General Assembly. These are implemented by regulations adopted by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Blinds Generally: Blinds located west of I-95 are not subject to these laws and regulations, nor do they apply to blinds located in Accomack and Northampton counties. No new blind licenses will be issued for additional shore and stationary blinds in the city of Virginia Beach. Floating blinds may not anchor within 500 yards of any licensed blind.

Stationary Blinds: Is a structure erected at a fixed location either on the shores of the public waters or in the public waters for the purpose of hunting and shooting waterfowl. A stationary blind shall be (1) of such size and strength that it can be occupied by and conceal one or more hunters, or (2) large enough to accommodate and conceal a boat or skiff from which one or more hunters intend to hunt or shoot waterfowl.

Floating Blind: Is a floating device, whether in motion or anchored, that can be occupied by and conceal one or more hunters, uses a means of concealment other than the device's paint or coloration, and is used in the public waters for the purpose of hunting and shooting waterfowl.



Offshore Blind Stake Site: Is a specific location in the public waters where a stake is licensed for the purpose of hunting and shooting waterfowl from a licensed floating blind. Valid only in the counties of Caroline, King George, Essex, Westmoreland and Richmond.

Waterfowl Blind Licenses: All applications for blind licenses shall be made to the local license agent or clerk of the circuit court of the county or city in which or nearest which the blind site is located. In the case of floating blinds, which

may be used at various locations, this is not considered to be applicable. The license plate furnished must be affixed to the blind at a location where it can be easily seen.

When Blind Licenses Are Sold:

Stationary blind license for riparian owner:

July 1- August 31.

Stationary blind license for nonriparian owner:

July 1-September 30.

Floating blind licenses: on or after July 1.

Offshore Blind Stake Site license for nonriparian owner who has not already licensed and erected a stationary blind (see page 16): November 1-10.

Offshore Blind Stake Site license for riparian owner who has already licensed and erected a stationary blind (see page 16) : November 11-15.

Spacing of Blinds Generally: Except for adjacent landowners, blinds may be placed no closer than 500 yards to each other, except they may be placed closer together with the mutual consent of the licensees involved. Except for county exceptions, listed on page 13 and 14, floating blinds may be positioned no closer than 500 yards to any other licensed blind, whether it is occupied or not, without consent of the owner of the neighboring blind. Stationary blinds cannot be located in any water having a depth of more than eight feet at mean high water.

Rights of Riparian Landowner: The owners of riparian rights or their invitees shall not be required to obtain a stationary blind license when hunting waterfowl from such a blind located on the riparian owner's property. However, a stationary blind license shall be required in order to afford the riparian owners the protections provided by Virginia law. The owner of riparian rights, his lessee or permittee has exclusive privileges of licensing blinds on his shoreline and prior rights of licensing and erecting blinds in the public waters in front of such shoreline. These blinds shall not be located in water deeper than eight feet at mean high tide, nor shall they be further than halfway across the body of water from the riparian owner's shoreline. The exercise of these prior rights is valid when a license has been obtained and displayed on a stake or blind by August 31. No other blind may be located within 500 yards of this stake or blind without consent of the owner, permittee, or lessee. The stake must be replaced by an erected stationary blind as specified by Code by November 1 to be a licensed blind under the law. The owner's rights extend out from his shoreline to the point where the water reaches eight feet in depth at mean high tide. Where the lands of two property owners adjoin, each may place blinds on his property or in the public waters in front of his property without regard to the placement of blinds on his neighbor's property.

Rights of Nonriparian Owner: Although the law states that a riparian owner who does not license a blind on his shore by August 31 forfeits the privilege for that season, it does not mean a nonriparian owner can erect or license a blind on the property of an-

other without permission. It does mean that a riparian owner cannot erect a blind on his shore after August 31 that would deny someone else from having a blind in the public waters within 500 yards of the shore unless he has previously staked and licensed a blind in that location. If a landowner has not licensed a stake or a blind by August 31, a nonriparian owner may license a location in the public waters in front of such land, providing no other location within 500 yards has been so licensed. Again, such blind cannot be located in water in excess of eight feet in depth at mean high tide. Inasmuch as a nonriparian owner can purchase a license until September 30 and considering that he has 10 days to place the license, this privilege is valid through October 10 of each year. In other words, nonriparian owners have from September 1 until October 10 to claim unclaimed locations. Of course, if a location is secured through agreement with a riparian landowner having control of the near shoreline, the site may be licensed as applies to a permittee or lessee of a landowner. A nonriparian owner, having licensed a blind in a given location, has first option to license such blind each year unless the riparian landowner having claim to that location exercises his right to license it.

Riparian Owner's Rights Renewed Annually: If a riparian owner fails to exercise his options, he may elect to do so the following year, thus preempting any rights of nonriparian owners who have erected blinds in the public waters in front of his shoreline.

Penalty for Violations: Any person who hunts or shoots migratory waterfowl in the public waters of this Commonwealth from a boat, float, raft or other buoyant craft or device within 500 yards of any legally licensed erected stationary blind of another without the consent of the licensee shall be guilty of a criminal offense that is punishable as a Class 2 misdemeanor. This provision shall not apply to any person when in active pursuit of a visible crippled waterfowl which was legally shot by the person.

Additionally, any person who erects a stationary blind within 500 yards of another licensed blind without permission of the licensee is guilty of a trespass, and the owner of the blind so encroached upon may maintain an action for damages. It should be noted that this is a civil action, not a criminal offense. It should also be noted that by November 1 a stationary blind must be erected; therefore, a stake with a stationary license affixed thereto cannot be considered to be a stationary blind after November 1.

Loss of Blind License: The violation of any of the provisions of law or regulations as to hunting migratory waterfowl from licensed blinds shall constitute a Class 2 misdemeanor and, in addition to other authorized penalties, the trial court shall immediately revoke the license of the blind owner who will have the same privileges as a new applicant to apply for a blind license the following year. Any blind for which the license has been revoked shall be destroyed by the former licensee or a conservation police officer.

Accidental Destruction of Blind: If a blind is destroyed in any manner beyond the control of the owner, it may be replaced within 30 days without losing the position it formerly occupied.

Number of Blinds Permitted: No club or individual who does not own riparian rights shall be permitted to license more than two stationary blinds in the public waters in any one season.

Floating Blinds, Where Prohibited: The use of floating blinds is prohibited in the counties of Caroline, King George, Essex, Westmoreland and Richmond in any of the public marshes, guts, streams, branches, creeks, or bays, including among others, Green Bay and Port Tobacco Bay, flowing into the Rappahannock River or in any of its tributaries, or in Buckner's Creek, Nomini Creek and Nomini Bay, flowing into the Potomac River or any of its tributaries, **except from a licensed Offshore Blind Stake Site.** (See below for details.)

Offshore Blind Stake Sites:

Non-Riparian Owner:

A non-riparian owner who has not already licensed and erected a stationary blind for the year in the 5-county area identified above and who holds a valid hunting license, may apply to the local license agent or clerk of the circuit court of the county in which an offshore blind stake site is to be located for a license for an offshore blind stake site. The license for an offshore blind stake site may be obtained from November 1 through November 10 of each year. Up to 4 offshore blind stake site licenses may be purchased per licensee. Once obtained, a stake shall be erected on the site and a license plate supplied with the license for that season shall be affixed thereto by November 10.

Riparian Owner:

From November 11 through November 15 of each year, any riparian owner and any other person who has already licensed and erected a stationary blind for the year in the areas noted above, and who holds a valid hunting license, may apply to the local license agent or clerk of the circuit court of the county in which an offshore blind stake site is to be located for a license for any remaining offshore blind stake sites. Up to 4 offshore blind stake site licenses may be purchased per licensee. Once obtained, a stake shall be erected on the site, and a license plate supplied with the license for that season shall be affixed thereto by November 15.

Placement of Blinds in Fairfax, Prince William and Stafford counties: No stationary blind shall be more than 300 yards from shore, except in waters less than 600 yards wide, in which case the blind may be no more than half the width of the water from shore. This distance is measured from the low water mark.

No license shall be issued for stationary waterfowl blinds on the Potomac River in Fairfax County adjacent to National Park Service lands in the Great Hunting Creek and Dyke Marsh areas.

Floating Blinds in Fairfax, Prince William and Stafford counties: Floating blinds must be anchored and located no closer to another's blind than 400 yards unless person has written permission of blind owner. Such blinds must be taken in at a half hour after sunset.

In the area adjacent to the National Park Service lands in the Great Hunting Creek and Dyke Marsh areas floating blinds must be attached to a Game Department-placed post or buoy. Only one floating blind per post. These are on a first-come, first-served basis, sites to be occupied no earlier than 4:00 a.m. or later than one half hour after sunset, and blinds removed each day. Hunters in licensed floating blinds can hunt from designated locations during legal shooting hours on Thanksgiving Day and on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays during the open season.

Placement of Blinds Adjacent to Certain Wildlife Management Areas: No stationary blinds shall be licensed in the waters adjacent to the Chickahominy Wildlife Management Area in Charles City County, the Game Farm Marsh WMA in New Kent County and the Ragged Island WMA in Isle of Wight County.

Occupied or Unoccupied Blinds: Hunters may not hunt within 500 yards of any licensed blind whether it is occupied or not.

Crippled Waterfowl: When in active pursuit of a visible waterfowl which was legally shot, the hunter may pursue such waterfowl without regard to the 500 yard prohibition protecting licensed waterfowl blinds.

Jump Shooting from Boats: Permitted where appropriate landowner permission has been secured or where generally permitted on public waters. Consult with local game warden to learn local restrictions. Not permitted within 500 yards of a licensed blind, except with consent of blind owner. If a boat is used for jump shooting and is modified for the purpose of concealing the hunter, it is a floating blind and must be licensed as such. Jump shooting is not permitted from a boat having a motor attached or any sailboat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled and its progress therefrom has ceased.

Abandoned Blinds: Those licensing stationary blinds in the public waters shall remove same when licenses are allowed to expire or when they no longer intend to use them.

Waterfowl Blind Cleanup: Hunters are asked to remove unnatural materials, such as netting, camouflage cloth, wire or twine from stationary blinds after the waterfowl hunting season. Birds such as ospreys, eagles and owls often use blind structures for perching and/or nesting. Such materials, if left after the hunting season, can cause injury and even death to these birds if they become entangled in the material.

Visit Our Web site
www.HuntFishVA.com

Areas Closed To Waterfowl Hunting

The discharge of firearms is prohibited within 750 yards of a wildlife sanctuary in any city in Virginia.

Taking, attempting to take, pursuing or disturbing waterfowl is prohibited in the following areas:

- ◆ In Virginia Beach on the waters and from the shores of Crystal Lake, Linkhorn and Broad Bay and Long Creek and their tributaries.
- ◆ Hog Island State Waterfowl Refuge in Surry County and all of the waters of the James River within a radius of 1,000 yards around that island, with the exception of blinds erected by the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.
- ◆ The waters of the James River around Presquile National Wildlife Refuge (except for Turkey Island cutoff canal) to the mean low water mark on the opposite shore.
- ◆ The Dick Cross Waterfowl Refuge below Kerr Dam and in the Roanoke River downstream to High Rock.
- ◆ Within the posted section of the Rappahannock River adjacent to Lands End Waterfowl Refuge in King George County.
- ◆ The waters of the Great Hunting Creek embayment within the City of Alexandria, and the waters of the Potomac River in Fairfax County north of Dyke Marsh and south of the City of Alexandria and between the shore and a line 1,000 feet from the Maryland State line, although waterfowl that have been wounded elsewhere may be pursued into this area.
- ◆ The waters of Kane Creek Waterfowl Refuge within the boundaries of Mason Neck State Park in Fairfax County.
- ◆ The waters of the Potomac River in Fairfax County adjacent to the Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge extending from Sycamore Point northeasterly to Hallowing Point including all tributary creeks, guts, and inlets along the shoreline.
- ◆ The portion of the New River that lies entirely within the boundaries of the Radford Army Ammunition Plant in the counties of Montgomery and Pulaski.

Attention Hunters: Migratory Bird Banding Projects

The Department captures and leg-bands a number of migratory game bird species, including ducks, geese, brant and swans, as part of our annual monitoring programs. For the past five years, the Department has participated in a cooperative, nationwide Mourning Dove Banding Study. Nearly 3,000 doves have been banded in Virginia and over 170,000 doves have been banded across the country during the past five years. The last large-scale banding program for mourning doves conducted in the Commonwealth was 25 years ago. Similar to recoveries of banded waterfowl, recoveries of leg-banded mourning doves provide biologists with important information on dove distribution, harvest rates, and survival. Virginia's data will be combined with data from North Carolina and South Carolina as part of a regional subunit that will be compared with other subunits across the country. Hunters recovering a banded dove or any banded migratory game bird can keep the band, but remember to report the recovery information by either calling the toll-free number 1-800-327-BAND (this number is also written on the band), or reporting it online at the USGS Web site, www.reportband.gov. After reporting the band you will receive a "Certificate of Appreciation" that includes information about where and when the bird was banded. For more information on the Mourning Dove Banding Project or other Department migratory bird projects visit our Web site at www.HuntFishVA.com.

Please help us help you manage migratory game birds in
Virginia by reporting banded birds.

**1-800-327-BAND (2263) or
www.reportband.gov**

This number is ONLY for reporting USFWS bands.
Private bands cannot be reported on this number.

Avian Influenza in Waterfowl

Low pathogenic strains of avian influenza (AI) are common in certain wild bird populations especially waterfowl and shorebirds, but generally do not cause obvious signs of infection nor pose a risk to humans. The highly pathogenic Asian strain of H5N1 avian influenza was first detected in 1997 in Southeast Asia and has spread to other parts of Asia, as well as Russia, Europe and Africa. People can become infected with this strain of H5N1 avian influenza virus; however, this virus does not move easily to humans. This Asian strain of H5N1 is unusual in that it has caused outbreaks of illness and death in various wild bird species. To date, the highly pathogenic strain of Asian H5N1 has not been found in North America.

Hunters should not be overly concerned about the Eurasian high path H5N1 strain at this time, but should take common sense precautions about hunting hygiene. Even apparently healthy wild birds can carry other infectious organisms that can move between wildlife and people.

- Do not handle birds that are obviously sick or birds found dead.
- Keep your game birds cool, clean and dry.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while cleaning your birds.
- Use rubber gloves when cleaning game.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or alcohol wipes after dressing birds.
- Clean all tools and surfaces immediately afterward; use hot soapy water, then disinfect with a 10% chlorine bleach solution.
- Cook game meat thoroughly (155-165° F) to kill disease organisms and parasites. Avian influenza is not transmitted through cooked food.

The Department will be conducting surveillance for AI in migratory waterfowl this fall and winter as part of a Nationwide Early Detection Surveillance Plan. We will be asking hunters to allow us to sample some of the birds they harvest. More information on Avian Influenza and the Department's Avian Influenza Surveillance and Response Plan can be found on our Web site at www.HuntFishVA.com.



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artwork by Spike Knuth

Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp

The Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Stamp is required of all persons 16 years of age and older hunting any migratory waterfowl (ducks, geese, brant and swans) within the Commonwealth.

The annual Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp can be purchased for a fee of \$10.00 (resident or non-resident) online or at license agents or clerks that sell Virginia hunting licenses. When purchasing a stamp a hunter will have the option of having a paper stamp mailed to them. If a hunter selects not to have a stamp mailed, then the “privileges” section of the license will serve as proof of purchasing the stamp. Hunters receiving a paper stamp must sign it and carry it with them while hunting.

For more information about the Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp, go to the Department’s Web site at www.HuntFishVA.com.

Permission to Hunt

Hunter Information

Hunter's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

Car Make/Model & License Plate No. _____

Driver's License No. _____

I hereby absolve the landowner of all liability for my person while engaged in recreation on his property.

Hunter's Signature _____

Landowner

I hereby grant the person named above permission to use my property for hunting on the following date(s): _____

Signed _____

Report Wildlife Violations
1-800-237-5712
or e-mail
wildcrime@dgif.virginia.gov

Sunrise and Sunset Timetable-Richmond, Virginia

Add one hour for Daylight Saving Time if and when in use.

Days of Month	Sept. 2008		Oct. 2008		Nov. 2008		Dec. 2008		Jan. 2009	
	Sunrise/ (a.m.)	Sunset (p.m.)	Sunrise/ (a.m.)	Sunset (p.m.)	Sunrise/ (a.m.)	Sunset (p.m.)	Sunrise/ (a.m.)	Sunset (p.m.)	Sunrise/ (a.m.)	Sunset (p.m.)
1	5:40	6:38	6:06	5:52	6:35	5:11	7:06	4:52	7:25	5:03
2	5:41	6:37	6:07	5:51	6:36	5:10	7:07	4:52	7:25	5:03
3	5:42	6:35	6:07	5:49	6:37	5:09	7:08	4:51	7:25	5:04
4	5:43	6:34	6:08	5:48	6:38	5:08	7:09	4:51	7:25	5:05
5	5:44	6:32	6:09	5:46	6:39	5:07	7:10	4:51	7:25	5:06
6	5:45	6:31	6:10	5:45	6:41	5:06	7:11	4:51	7:25	5:07
7	5:46	6:29	6:11	5:43	6:42	5:05	7:12	4:51	7:25	5:08
8	5:46	6:28	6:12	5:42	6:43	5:04	7:12	4:51	7:25	5:09
9	5:47	6:26	6:13	5:40	6:44	5:03	7:13	4:52	7:25	5:10
10	5:48	6:25	6:14	5:39	6:45	5:02	7:14	4:52	7:25	5:11
11	5:49	6:23	6:15	5:38	6:46	5:02	7:15	4:52	7:24	5:12
12	5:50	6:22	6:16	5:36	6:47	5:01	7:16	4:52	7:24	5:13
13	5:50	6:20	6:17	5:35	6:48	5:00	7:16	4:52	7:24	5:14
14	5:51	6:18	6:17	5:33	6:49	4:59	7:17	4:53	7:24	5:15
15	5:52	6:17	6:18	5:32	6:50	4:59	7:18	4:53	7:23	5:16
16	5:53	6:15	6:19	5:31	6:51	4:58	7:18	4:53	7:23	5:17
17	5:54	6:14	6:20	5:29	6:52	4:57	7:19	4:54	7:23	5:18
18	5:55	6:12	6:21	5:28	6:53	4:57	7:19	4:54	7:22	5:19
19	5:55	6:11	6:22	5:27	6:54	4:56	7:20	4:54	7:22	5:20
20	5:56	6:09	6:23	5:25	6:55	4:56	7:21	4:55	7:21	5:21
21	5:57	6:08	6:24	5:24	6:56	4:55	7:21	4:55	7:21	5:22
22	5:58	6:06	6:25	5:23	6:57	4:55	7:22	4:56	7:20	5:23
23	5:59	6:05	6:26	5:21	6:58	4:54	7:22	4:56	7:20	5:24
24	6:00	6:03	6:27	5:20	6:59	4:54	7:22	4:57	7:19	5:25
25	6:01	6:01	6:28	5:19	7:00	4:53	7:23	4:58	7:18	5:26
26	6:01	6:00	6:29	5:18	7:01	4:53	7:23	4:58	7:18	5:28
27	6:02	5:58	6:30	5:17	7:02	4:53	7:24	4:59	7:17	5:29
28	6:03	5:57	6:31	5:15	7:03	4:52	7:24	5:00	7:16	5:30
29	6:04	5:55	6:32	5:14	7:04	4:52	7:24	5:00	7:16	5:31
30	6:05	5:54	6:33	5:13	7:05	4:52	7:24	5:01	7:15	5:32
31			6:34	5:12			7:25	5:02	7:14	5:33

Apply corrections below to Richmond sunrise-sunset times
to obtain official times at other Virginia locations.

Location	Correction	Location	Correction
Bristol	+19 minutes	Newport News	-5 minutes
Cape Charles	-6 minutes	Norfolk	-5 minutes
Charlottesville	+4 minutes	Roanoke	+10 minutes
Chincoteague	-8 minutes	Tazewell	+16 minutes
Danville	+8 minutes	Williamsburg	-3 minutes
Fredericksburg	0 minutes	Winchester	+3 minutes

Boat Smart From the Start

Wear Your Life Jacket

Wearing a life jacket may save your life. It is estimated that 80 percent of boating-related drownings could have been prevented had the victim been wearing a life jacket.

The newest type of life jacket, the manual or automatic inflatable, is lightweight and comfortable. They are versatile enough to be worn at any time of the year, and fit easily over a hunting coat or sweater.

Safety Tips:

- Check the weather before leaving.
- Wear a life jacket or float coat.
- Remain seated and keep weight evenly distributed.
- Anchor from the bow, never from the stern.
- Properly load your boat.
- Stay with your boat if it should capsize.
- Guard against hypothermia.
- Leave the alcohol at home.

For more information contact the Boating Safety Coordinator at 804-367-1125.

This program received Federal financial assistance in Sport Fish and/or Wildlife Restoration. Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility as described above, or if you desire further information please write to the Office for Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop 2000, Arlington, VA 22203.

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Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

P.O. Box 11104, Richmond, VA 23230

or

call 1-800-710-9369 and mention code J6HF

To Report Bands

1-800-327-BAND (2263) or

www.reportband.gov

This number is ONLY for reporting U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service bands.

Private bands cannot be reported on this number.

Help us better manage Virginia's waterfowl.